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MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: L.A. Couvillon Jr. Attorney Docket No.: BSEN122002
Application No.: 10/848,730 Art Unit: 3739 / Confirmation No.: 7335
Filed: May 18, 2004
Title: SERIALIZATION OF SINGLE USE ENDOSCOPES

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

February 6, 2006

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Applicant is aware of the information listed in the attached form that may be material to the prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

1. X Copies of the foreign patents and publications are enclosed for the Examiner's use.
2. X A concise explanation of the relevance of document Cite Nos. F1 and F2 (which are not in the English language), as presently understood by the individual designated under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about its content, are provided. For reference No. F1, it is provided in the accompanying EPO/PCT search report indicating the degree of relevance. For reference No. F2, an English-language abstract is attached.
3. X Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the national application (other than a CPA), within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE.

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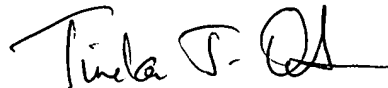
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4. X Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a statement that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a (any) communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application. Such communication was received by an individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) on January 13, 2006, which is not more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR
JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}



Tineka J. Quinton
Registration No. 53,496
Direct Dial No. 206.695.1655

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date: February 6, 2006 Patricia H. Tucker

TJQ:pt

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INFORMATION CITED BY APPLICANT THAT MAY BE MATERIAL TO THE
PROSECUTION OF THE SUBJECT APPLICATION

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *Examiner Initials | Cite No. | Document No. | Kind Code | Date (mm/dd/yyyy) | Name |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------|
| | U7 | 5,871,439 | A | 02/16/1999 | Takahashi et al. |
| | U8 | 2002/0114452 | A1 | 08/22/2002 | Hamilton |
| | U9 | 2003/0009083 | A1 | 01/09/2003 | Takahashi |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *Examiner Initial | Cite No. | Document No. | Kind Code | Publication Date (mm/dd/yyyy) | Country | English Abstract Provided | Translation Provided |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | F1 | DE 20213926 | U1 | 12/05/2002 | DE | | |
| | F2 | JP 10 33472 | A | 02/10/1998 | JP | | X |

OTHER INFORMATION

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| *Examiner Initial | Cite No. |
|----------------------|-------------|
|----------------------|-------------|

None

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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CERTIFICATION STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

Seattle, Washington 98101

February 6, 2006

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

1. I, the person signing below, state that:

- a. X each item of information contained in the accompanying information disclosure statement was first cited in a (any) communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

2. I, the person signing below, am:

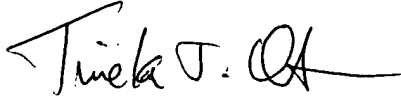
- a. the inventor named in the application
- b. X the attorney or agent who prepared or prosecuted the application, signing on the basis of:
- i. the information supplied by the inventor.
- ii. the information supplied by another individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c).

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iii. X the information in my file.

Respectfully submitted,

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Direct Dial No. 206.695.1655

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date: February 16, 2006 Patricia L. Tucker

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